



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Laguna
Municipality of Santa Cruz



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OFFICE

EXCERPS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF SANTA CRUZ, LAGUNA HELD ON SEPTEMBER 08, 2025, MONDAY, 9:30 IN THE MORNING AT THE BATASANG BAYAN, ESCOLAPIA BUILDING, SANTA CRUZ, LAGUNA.

PRESENT:

Honorable LAARNI A. MALIBIRAN

Honorable Ambiel John C. Panganiban
Honorable Norman T. Tolentino
Honorable Lea A. Almarvez
Honorable Jericho V. Asinas
Honorable Roselon F. Pamatmat
Honorable Esmeraldo C. De Las Armas, Jr.
Honorable Rizaldy N. Kalaw
Honorable Louie C. De Leon
Honorable Laura P. Obligacion
Honorable Mark Anthony M. Juangco

VICE-MAYOR
Presiding Officer

Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor
Councilor/ABC Federation President
Councilor/ President – SK Federation



MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 10- S2025

AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING PARTICIPATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE THROUGH THE CREATION OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNCIL OF SANTA CRUZ, LAGUNA, AS THE UMBRELLA COUNCIL OF ALL CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, PRIVATE AND BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS IN THE MUNICIPALITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SPONSOR: HON. ESMERALDO C. DE LAS ARMAS, JR.

WHEREAS, Section 34 of Republic Act 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates every local government unit to promote the establishment and operation of people's organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and private sector groups to become active partners in the pursuit of local autonomy;

WHEREAS, Section 35 of the same Code authorizes local government units to enter into joint ventures and cooperative arrangements with people's and nongovernmental organizations to engage in the delivery of certain basic services, capability-building, and livelihood projects;

WHEREAS, Section 107 of the Local Government Code provides for the organization of a People's Council to serve as the mechanism for institutionalizing the partnership between local government units and civil society organizations,

WHEREAS, there is a pressing need to institutionalize an inclusive, participatory, and transparent mechanism in the Municipality of Santa Cruz, Laguna to ensure that governance processes are reflective of the voice and will of its people;

NOW THEREFORE: on motion of Hon. Esmeraldo C. De Las Armas, Jr. (Chairman of Committee on Laws and Ordinances), duly seconded by all the members of the Sangguniang Bayan present, it was

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, as it is hereby ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Santa Cruz, Laguna, in session duly assembled, that:

SECTION 1. Title - This Ordinance shall be known as the "People's Council of Santa Cruz, Laguna Ordinance of 2025."

SECTION 2. Creation - There is hereby created the People's Council of Santa Cruz, Laguna, hereinafter referred to as the "People's Council," which shall serve as the umbrella organization of all accredited civil society organizations (CSOs), people's organizations (POs), nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), faith-based groups, cooperatives, professional groups, private sector associations, and business organizations duly operating within the municipality.

SECTION 3. Objectives - The People's Council shall:

- Institutionalize participation, accountability, and transparency in local governance;
- Serve as a venue for CSOs, private sector, and business groups to coordinate with the municipal government;
- Ensure the representation of citizens in the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of local development plans, programs, and policies;
- Strengthen partnerships between government and civil society towards inclusive growth and sustainable development.

HON. ROSELON F. PAMATMAT
Councilor

HON. JERICO V. ASINAS
Councilor

HON. LEA A. ALMARVEZ
Councilor

HON. NORMAN T. TOLENTINO
Councilor

HON. AMBIEL JOHN C. PANGANIBAN
Councilor

HON. ESMERALDO C. DE LAS ARMAS, JR.
Councilor

HON. RIZALDY N. KALAW
Councilor

HON. LOUIE C. DE LEON
Councilor

HON. LAURA P. OBLIGACION
ABC Federation President

HON. MARK ANTHONY M. JUANGCO
SK Federation President



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SECTION 4. Functions and Powers. - The People's Council shall have the following functions:

1. Nominate and recommend representatives to the various local special bodies (e.g., Local Development Council, School Board, Health Board, Peace and Order Council, etc.) in accordance with the Local Government Code;
2. Participate in public hearings, consultations, and budget deliberations of the Sangguniang Bayan and other municipal offices;
3. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of local government programs and projects and recommend appropriate actions;
4. Initiate and propose policies, programs, and projects for consideration of the Sangguniang Bayan and the Local Chief Executive;
5. Serve as a feedback and grievance mechanism for citizens regarding public services and local governance;
6. Undertake such other functions as may be consistent with the objectives of this Ordinance and other applicable laws.

SECTION 5. Composition. - The People's Council shall be composed of all duly accredited and recognized CSOs, NGOs, and Private Sector Organizations in Santa Cruz, Laguna.

The Council shall elect from among its accredited members a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor, and Public Information Officer, who shall serve for a term of three (3) years, without prejudice to re-election.

SECTION 6. Secretariat. - The Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO), in coordination with the Municipal DILG Office, shall serve as the Secretariat of the People's Council and provide technical, administrative, and logistical support.

SECTION 7. Funding. - The amount necessary for the operationalization of the People's Council shall be included in the annual budget of the Municipality of Santa Cruz, subject to existing budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause - All ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. - This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of local circulation or posting in at least three (3) conspicuous places in the Municipality of Santa Cruz, Laguna.

ORDERED: Let copies of this ordinance be furnished the Honorable Sangguniang Panlalawigan; the Hon. Mayor Joseph Kris Benjamin B. Agarao, the Municipal Administrator, the Municipal Accountant, the Municipal Budget Officer, the Municipal Treasurer, the Municipal Planning and Development Coordinator, the Designated CSO Desk Officer, the Department of Interior and Local Government, Civil Society Organizations, Peoples Organizations and NGO's, and all others concerned offices, for their information and appropriate action.

ENACTED, this 8th day of September, 2025, at Santa Cruz, Laguna.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the above - quoted ordinance.

AMYCAR O. SANTOS

Acting Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

HON. ESMERALDO C. DE LAS ARMAS, JR.
Councilor

HON. RIZALDY N. KALAW
Councilor

HON. JOUIE C. DE LEON
Councilor

HON. LAURA P. OBLIGACION
ABC Federation President

HON. ANTHONY M. JARAMILLO
SAC Federation President

HON. ROSELON F. PAMATMAT
Councilor

HON. JERICO V. ASINAS
Councilor

HON. LEA A. ALMARVEZ
Councilor

HON. NORMAN T. TOLENTINO
Councilor

HON. PANGANIBAN
Councilor

HON. AMBIELO JOHN C. PANGANIBAN
Councilor



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HON. AMBIEL JOHN C. PANGANIBAN
Councilor


HON. NORMAN T. TOLENTINO
Councilor


HON. LEA A. ALMARVEZ
Councilor



HON. JERICHÓ V. ASINAS
Councilor


HON. ROSELON F. PAMATMAT
Councilor


HON. ESMERALDO C. DE LAS ARMAS, JR.
Councilor



HON. RIZALDY N. KALAW
Councilor


HON. LOUIE C. DE LEON
Councilor


HON. LAURA P. OBLIGACION
ABC – Federation President


HON. MARK ANTHONY M. JUANGCO
SK – Federation President

ATTESTED :


HON. LAARNI A. MALIBIRAN
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:


HON. JOSEPH KRIS BENJAMIN B. AGARAO
Municipal Mayor